

In conclusion, I would remark that it would be more correct to use the term "tail-feathers" than "tail," since the tail is really made up in part of the caudal vertebræ and in part of the feathers which those vertebræ support. These caudal vertebræ, as might be expected, are, in the Grebes, degenerate, the pygostyle being reduced to a mere rod.

XXV.—*Proceedings at the Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union, 1907.*

THE Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union for this year was held at the house of the Zoological Society of London, No. 3 Hanover Square (by permission), on May 29th. The Chair was taken by the President, F. DuCane Godman, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union during the past year, as regards both its membership and its finances.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1906 was the sixth and last of the Eighth Series under the joint Editorship of Dr. P. L. Selater, D.Sc., F.R.S., and Mr. A. H. Evans, M.A. It contained 769 pages and was illustrated by 11 coloured and 10 uncoloured plates. The General Index to the Eighth Series of 'The Ibis' (1901-1906) was also published, and issued separately to the Members at the end of the year.

With regret the Committee reported the deaths of the following Members of the Union since the last Annual Meeting:—

Sir Walter Buller, Mr. J. J. M. Falconer, Mr. G. E. Foster, Mr. Septimus Hedges, Mr. J. T. Stephen, Dr. C. R. Whitty, and Mr. A. F. Wiener.

Nine Members had resigned, and the names of two others had been removed under Rule 6.

At the date of the Meeting the Union consisted of 402

Ordinary, 2 Extra-Ordinary, 9 Honorary, 5 Colonial, and 20 Foreign Members.

The Report having been received, the Meeting proceeded to elect Officers for the ensuing year, and it was announced that Dr. F. DuCane Godman, F.R.S., had been re-elected President, and Mr. Howard Saunders Secretary; also that Mr. Ernest Gibson had been elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Mr. J. Lewis Bonhote, who had retired by rotation.

The following 22 gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Union:—The Hon. Richard Bethell, 30 Hill Street, Mayfair, W.; William Bickerton, The Hawthorns, Marlborough Road, Watford, Herts; John M. Boraston, Ingleside, Stretford, near Manchester; Charles M. Buckley, 14 Hans Crescent, S.W.; Arthur G. Butler, Ph.D., F.L.S., F.Z.S., 124 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent; Edward H. Chapman, 3 Hare Court, Temple, E.C.; Alfonso O. Duke Gandolfi, Ph.D., Blackmore Park, Hanley Swan, Worcestershire; George M. Hedges, 42 Kensington Park Gardens, W.; Francis H. Bulkeley-Johnson, F.Z.S., St. James's Club, Piccadilly, W.; Thomas H. Mann, Hyde Hall, Sawbridgeworth, Herts; Gregory M. Matthews, Langley Mount, Watford; Sheffield A. Neave, Mill Green Park, Ingatestone, Essex; Charles Oldham, Brook Cottage, Knutsford; The Lord William Percy, 2 Grosvenor Place, S.W.; Reginald I. Pocock, F.L.S., F.Z.S., Superintendent of the Zoological Society's Gardens, Regent's Park, N.W.; Herbert W. Richmond, King's College, Cambridge; Archibald T. A. Ritchie, Overstrand, near Cromer; Conrad G. E. Russell, F.Z.S., 2 Audley Square, W.; Geoffrey Schwann, 4 Princes Gardens, S.W.; The Rev. Canon Samuel G. Scott, M.A., The Rectory, Havant, Hants; Dr. Eduard D. van Oort, Museum of Natural History, Leyden, Holland; Rodney C. Wood, 36 Abercorn Place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

Dr. Joel A. Allen, F.M.Z.S., Foreign Member of the Union, was elected an Honorary Member, and Mr. Charles F. M. Swynnerton, Gungunyana, South Melssetter, Rhodesia, a Colonial Member.

A vote of thanks to the Council of the Zoological Society of London for the use of their rooms during the past year was unanimously agreed to.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Annual General Meeting, the Committee submitted the following Scheme for the commemoration of the Jubilee of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1908 :—

“As the B. O. U. was founded at Cambridge in November 1858 it seems clear that Cambridge would be the most suitable place for the Jubilee Meeting, and November 1908 the most suitable date. The Committee therefore recommend :—

“1. That the Jubilee Meeting (to celebrate the fiftieth Anniversary of the B. O. U. and the completion of the fiftieth volume of ‘The Ibis’) be held at Cambridge in the beginning of November 1908.

“2. That all Members of the Union at home and abroad be invited to attend it.

“3. That the Members be asked to assemble on one day, and to hold a General Meeting on the next, to be followed by a Dinner.

“4. That, if it can be arranged, the Dinner shall take place in the Hall of Magdalene College, as in November 1858.”

This Scheme was approved of, and it was proposed by Mr. H. J. Elwes, seconded by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, and carried :—

“That it be an instruction to the Committee to prepare a short account of the foundation of the Union and of the work of the early Members, and that this be illustrated by photographs of the Members included, and be published in the fiftieth volume of ‘The Ibis.’”

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the Meeting.